



ARENA REPORT



P.O. Box 952547, Lake Mary, FL 32795-2547

\$1.00

Volume IV, Number 9

February 10, 1992

Hi again everyone and welcome to "AR" once again. Before getting into this issue, I'd like to mention the fact that there was a newsletter missing from my mailbox this week. Matwatch ceased operations after the 1/27 issue. I'd like to thank Steve Beverly for the years of enjoyment and inspiration from reading his newsletter. Steve was not only an associate but a good friend. He will be sorely missed. Good luck in all your future endeavors Steve!

Besides the normal material in this "AR" we have a two page article from Harry White on the press conference that was held in Kansas City by WCW. You'll find it enjoyable I'm sure. Arena Report is published bi-weekly at the cost of \$1.00 per issue. A label on your envelope indicates the number of issues you have remaining. All renewals, letters, and match results may be sent to Arena Report, P.O. Box 952547, Lake Mary, FL 32795-2547.

LIVE REPORT

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING

Friday, February 7, 1992
Jacksonville Coliseum
Jacksonville, FL

Opening Match

Marcus Alexander Bagwell schoolboyed Terry Taylor in 10:18. Was to be Josh vs. Taylor but Bagwell came out and asked Josh to take his place. Wish he hadn't. Terry won with his feet on the ropes but Josh came out and told the ref who restarted it. Taylor went ot hit Borne but Josh blocked it and slugged Terry who was pinned by Bagwell. *

Return Match

Johnny B. Badd beat Richard Morton in 11:08 with a sunset flip into a roll up. Don't know anyone who was clamoring to see this return bout. ½*

3rd Match

Ron Simmons used a flying shoulderblock to defeat Diamond Dallas Page in 7:34. This undercard was starting to reek. Dud

Tag Team Match

Steiner Brothers over Young Pistols in 12:40. Was to be Hughes and Stud but Stud's knee is still hurting and Hughes got busted for cocaine. Not as good as expected. Last minute was hot where Scott did a tilt a whirl slam on Smothers and then steinerlined him over the top. He then gave Armstrong the frankensteiner for the victory. **

5th Match

Abdullah the Butcher beat Cactus Jack in a mere 6:03. Started hot with Jack attacking outside the ring before the bell with chairs and Abby's voodoo stick but slowed down to mainly chokes and chops. Never thought I'd see the day where fans would chant, "Abdullah, Abdullah". Abby won it with a chop and elbow drop. Only one spot post match as Abby shoulderblocked Jack in the runway. Very disappointing. *

Bullrope Match

Barry Windham roped and steered Larry Zbyszko in 5:03. Was to be Bagwell vs. Larry with same stip. Why??? Glad they changed this one. Paul E. hit Barry with the phone when he was on the top rope. Larry took off his end of the rope from his wrist and whipped Barry into the ropes but Windham ducked and Barry hit him with the cowbell and scored the pin. As a gimmick match, this stunk. 3/4*

Six Man Tag Cage Match

Sting, Dustin Rhodes, & Ricky Steamboat beat Rick Rude, Bobby Eaton, & Arn Anderson in 17:02. Loved it when Rude did his speel with "Listen up you fat out of shape Jacksonville jerk-offs." Shades of Dusty when Dustin lined up Eaton and Arn and nailed them with elbows. I'm sure Rick Steamboat's ego was bruised when he was in with Rude and the fans were chanting for

Sting. Rude went up to the top of the cage for a double sledge on Dustin that looked super. Finish saw Sting hit Bobby with a clothesline from the top rope and score the win. Larry Z then came out and the heels beat on the faces until Windham made the save with the bullrope. ***½

NOTES

Attendance was 3,094 which is great considering they were just here three weeks ago...Next show is April 5. Sound familiar? That's Wrestlemania Day. They'll be putting tickets on sale for the Wrestle War PPV during intermission of that show....Chris Qualmann made this statement during the Bagwell-Taylor bout, "I bet Bagwell is happy with the bill being defeated today." in reference to Bagwell's bulked up physique and the steroid testing bill (one of the key parts of a wrestling bill that was defeated in Florida, more in "Ramblings")....Quote of the night goes to Paul E. Dangerously who said at the Holiday Inn after the show, "Steve Austin is our (Dangerous Alliance) project. He'll learn to work from Bobby and Rick. He'll learn how to look tough and give interviews from Arn. He'll learn ring psychology from Larry. He's not going to stand there and look like a California hippie on dope."..... One of the worst shows I've seen in J-ville save for the six man.

RAMBLINGS

Saturday Night's Main Event aired on Fox on 2/8. The show was taped in Lubbock, TX. Sid walked out on Hogan in the main tag bout which will lead to Hogan backing out of the title bout vs. Flair at Wrestlemania so he can wrestle Sid. Savage will be awarded the title bout as I mentioned last ish. The match quality of the whole show was pretty bad although Jake vs. Randy wasn't bad considering the time they went. The tag match was good only because the solo shots of Sid throughout the bout were great. His facials and heel antics were super. This angle shouldn't have had to occurred if Vince hadn't made the mistake of bringing him in as a face in the first place. They teased the angle at the end where Jake will go to hit Liz with a chair but Undertaker will take it away from him to start the Callous turn which I totally disagree with....Sid by the way, has threatened to quit unless he gets the title. If so, he won't go to WCW if they're smart. Retract that last statement....Besides bringing Junkyard Dog back to WCW, there is a good chance that Greg Valentine is heading in. Are you sure George Scott isn't back to booking this group....Looking forward to Wrestlemania as the Flair-Savage bout should be good. Piper-Bret Hart will be interesting with both as faces. Hogan-Sid will be horrible but curiosity as to what they'll do for a finish is there. And Undertaker-Jake is intriguing....AWF claiming to have three dates in New England in March. The 13th in Manchester, NH, the 14th in Lowell, MA, and the 15th in Lewiston, ME....Look for a super article on Lex Luger by Jeff Bowdren in an upcoming Pro Wrestling Torch. It looks at the "Total Package's" whole career. It would have run in "AR" but space wouldn't allow for it and it is a timely piece so it should hit the sheets before the PPV....Paul E. Dangerously's contract is up in April and indicates he'd love to stay put but he's in a super bargaining position as he is the lead manager in the biz today. WCW will have to come up with some big bucks. I believe they'll reverse a trend and be smart to sign him. Word is out that Vince is ready for a raid and his main targets are Paul, Rude (can't figure why Rick would go back since they had so much heat when he left before.) and the Steiners. That would be interesting especially since the Roadies have hinted they'd like to go back to WCW. Would love to see a Steiner Roadie feud with Hawk and Animal as heels....Scotty the Body appeared on a WCW taping where he teamed with Rip Rogers to get squashed by Dustin Rhodes & Barry Windham....A handful of us are in the early stages of promoting an independant card in Jacksonville on 5/16 which is the night before the Wrestle War PPV. All you hardcores out there that were in St. Pete last year, this should be a great weekend. If you missed the get together then, try to make plans this year....ICWA in Tampa on 2/6 saw Pat Tanaka over Lou Perez, Jimmy Backlund made Dean Malenko submit with the ropes for leverage on the submission hold, Kevin Sullivan and Kendall Windham fought to a double count out, and the Terminators beat Jerry Flynn & Firecat (Brady Boone)....The main event on their card 2/13 is Jimmy Backlund vs. Greg Valentine with Dan Spivey skedded to appear as well....Dan Spivey not working for All Japan anymore goes back two years when he balked for doing a job for Sting in the Orient. Baba didn't want to book him on tours anymore but Stan Hansen convinced Baba that he needed Dan for a tag partner. Everything was fine until last December when Baba was giving out tour schedules and Spivey said he wasn't coming in January so Baba basically told him to take a hike....CWF at the Exposure in Tampa saw Rico Frederico beat Tommy Star and Jumbo Berretta & Dean Malenko defeat Jim Cooper & Paul Samson. CWF has a show at the skaterama in Tampa on 2/23 with Chris Proctor vs. Cody Wade....Steamboat will not be winning the U.S. title at SuperBrawl as he will be having title vs. title bouts with Sting at all the houses....On my drive home from work Friday, here was one of the

(continued on page 10)

BULLETIN BOWL 92

PRESS POW-WOW 92

THE ERA OF CONFRONTATION MOVES TO THE ERA OF
COMMUNICATION.

by HARRY WHITE

I suppose if an overzealous TBS production department wanted to publicize the recent press-WCW get together they might give it a title like that. The basic idea to acknowledge and interact with a sometimes critical press was a fresh one and greatly appreciated even by those that had to send their regrets. A minor disappointment was that everyone was not able to participate. The Godfather of newsletters Dave Meltzer was sidelined by an act of God at an airport. Wade Keller was probably making the rounds at Minnesota Super Bowl parties passing out free copies of The Torch. For some strange reason that I am at a loss to understand Ron Lemeiux and Lance Levine and several others put their real job ahead of their hobby and could not get away. The Fabulous Moohlah offered to send some wrestling journalists to the meeting but I think she wanted a booking fee to do so. Attending were radio talk show hosts John Arezzi and Mike Tenay, Main Event magazine editor Sandy Krebs, Craig Peters, Japanese magazine photographers Linda Roufa and Jimmy Suzuki, and myself.

On arriving in Topeka we were met by Barry Norman and Wayne Colter and taken to a hospitality room at the arena for a cocktail type setting. Maybe a pessimist might think we were taken there so we would not tell every mark in the building what the finishes were going to be. Most good fans would like to talk wrestling with Arn Anderson and Terry Taylor and that's who came in the room to talk wrestling. They confirmed their deserved reputations as prototype pro wrestlers and excellent representatives of the sport. New executive director Kip Frey came in accompanied by marketing person Sharon Sidello.(?) You could immediately tell that Kip Frey had the presence and aura of a top executive but you could also sense the "just a regular guy" part of his persona.

We were given enough complimentary beer and wine that even if the Clash had been bad we may have liked it anyway. The hot crowd reactions, the wrestling, and pyrotechnics made the card a fun one to attend live. I liked the Cactus-Hammer match so much that after leaving the building I almost dove into that water tub.

A breakfast question and answer format started at nine the day after the Clash. Mr. Frey, Jim Ross, Jim Crockett, Dusty, Sharon Sidello, Barry Norman, and Wayne Colter were there. Also head of security Doug Dillinger was there I guess in case someone asked too many stupid questions.

Mr. Frey fielded the questions for the first thirty minutes until he had to leave for a convention meeting. No solution was forthcoming to the exclusive building situation. I suggested that since hell has no fury like a scorned wrestling fan that their frustration be utilized in calling the fascists running buildings. The product and direction of the company will be so strong that buildings will have to give them dates. The number of ringside photographers will be looked into. An ongoing effort will be made to secure the best wrestlers in the world. It is conceivable that the number of the employed wrestlers would be increased. The NWA name will be utilized in the future. Lex Luger's contract will try to be enforced so nothing detrimental to WCW will be forthcoming. The steroid question answer was unique as the problem will be considered as it concerns the entire sports organization which not only includes wrestling but baseball

and basketball also. WCW can't be pushed on CNN because the shilling of other Turner owned properties on CNN would violate the basic integrity of CNN which is its strongest asset. The premise ~~of~~ reputation of CNN is news and not promoting things so I doubt you will be seeing ads for Janes' workout tapes either. Mention of wrestling legends may be used. When Kip left, Dusty and Jim Ross answered questions very candidly. Dusty reads those critiques of himself. Dusty talked about Dustin learning from and growing up with Dick Murdoch. Jim praised Dustins' progress, maturity, and ability for one so young. He mentioned that Paul and his Dangerous Alliance is the best grouping of wrestlers ever put together. Jim said that future expanding of PPV sports may not hurt wrestling PPVs because the universe is continually expanding also. Jim likes the sheets and respects the opinions but pre air disclosure of angles and results occasionally affects the spontaneity and any surprise of TV angles. For example let someone tell you the ending of a great movie and that sometimes affects your total enjoyment of that movie. I asked Jim Crockett if someone without a background in pro wrestling and innate love of the sport could succeed in the position and Mr. Crockett gave a strong yes.

After the meeting Barry Norman held court for an hour and provided some little known obscure facts. Barry was once a wrestler for a short period of time. Being such a nice guy I am glad he got out without any major joint or forehead damage, califlower ears, or stretch marks from huge weight gain or loss. Barry got a wrestling article on Ms. York in PC Computer magazine. Barry mentioned that Kevin Nash was drafted by the Cleveland Cavaliers and also played ball in Europe which makes him a pretty good athlete.

Kevin may retire the Jack Victory multiple personality award if he gets any more characters. With Kevin Nash and El Grande maybe WCW should try recruiting athletes from other sports besides basketball.

Advance man C.M. Crist(?) allowed us to arrive at the TV taping four hours early and hang around the building. In a quiet and understated way C.M. has done a lot of positive things on the local promo scene. Long conversations with great workers and friends of the fans Terry Taylor, Rip Rogers, and Cactus Jack made the time pass quickly. I had never experienced a TV taping before so it was interesting to see the flow of matches mixed in with the interviews.

One of the highlights of the trip for me was while driving J.B. Badd back to the hotel I was told to "Oh hush Harry." I still don't believe he had the nerve to say that to me. I am not too sure what that phrase means but I can sum up the trip by saying "what a rush."

READER PROFILES

NAME: JOHN PINZKER

OCCUPATION: Truck Driver

BORN: 4/8/42 Chicago, IL

WHAT 3 WORDS DESCRIBE YOU BEST: dynamic, arrogant, honest

DREAM VACATION: Oahu, Hawaii

THINGS YOU CAN DO WITHOUT:

WHOM IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO HAVE DINNER WITH: Barbara Streisand

MOVIE YOU COULD SEE ANYTIME: Steven Segal movies

3 THINGS THAT CAN ALWAYS BE FOUND IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR: milk, diet coke, fresh fruit

WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE:

WHAT TV SHOW DO YOU NEVER MISS: WWF & NWA Wrestling

FAVORITE WRESTLING MOMENT: Billy Robinson's last match with Ric Flair, his pupil, at Horizon in Chicago late 80's.

SCOTT HUDSON'S.....

GEORGIA WRESTLING JOURNAL

THE OMNI (Atlanta, Georgia) 02-09-92. 1. **Tommy Rich** pinned **Joey Maggs** in 8:00 with atop rope clotheline $\frac{1}{4}$ *. 2. **The Taylor Made Man** pinned **Big Josh** in 9:00 with interference from the mysteriously appearing **Harley Race** $\frac{1}{2}$ *. 3. **Mr. Hughes** pinned **P.N. News** with the feet-on-the-ropes finish in 7:30 *. 4. **Johnny B. Badd** pinned **Ricky Morton** with a roll-up out of a sunset flip in 9:00 $\frac{1}{4}$ *. 5. **Rick & Scott Steiner** defeated **The Young Pistols** when Scott pinned **Steve Armstrong** with the **Frankensteiner**. Good heat and a great match that went 12:00 *** $\frac{1}{2}$ *. 6. **Barry Windham** pinned **Larry Zbysko** with Zbysko holding Windham on top of him allowing the entire **Dangerous Alliance** to run-in at 10:00. **Dustin Rhodes** made the save **. 7. **Sting, Dustin Rhodes, & Rick Steamboat** defeated **Arn Anderson, Bobby Eaton, & Rick Rude** when Sting pinned Eaton after Barry Windham (who had run-in) hit Eaton with Paul E. Dangerously's telephone. **Dusty Rhodes** was bullrope to Paul E. during the match but was jumped by Zbysko near the finish. Windham had run in to save Dusty. The whole thing took 16:00 ***. 7. **Abdullah The Butcher** defeated **Cactus Jack** in what was billed as an over-the-top cage match which ended up being far less. The two did basically nothing for 8:00 before cactus took a twelve foot fall from the top of the cage, back first on to the announcers table. The table was broken in half by the impact. The two then had an uninspiring brawl to the back highlighted only by Cactus taking a bump down a flight of stairs. A real dissappointment $\frac{1}{2}$ *. ATT: 3200

OTHER NEWS AND NOTES: The WWF special on the FOX television network this past Sturday came off much better than expected. While still no great worker or talker, Sid Justice's acting in this show was really very good. The press conference eruption and the completely arrogant turn during the tag team match were both effective. **Wrestlemania VIII** is shaping up to be one whale of a show. Speaking of **Titan Sports**, is there some ulterior motive to the sudden title change to the unlikely team of **Irwin R. Schyster** and **Ted Dibiase**? Are the **Road Warriors** up to something? Hhhmmm...The article included with this column is the latest in a lengthening list a of positive press article about WCW by the folks at the Atlanta Journal/Constitution. This is doubly interesting as the papers are both owned by Cox Communications while WCW is owned by Cox's biggest rival, Turner Broadcasting. An alliance between those two in any fashion is almost unthinkable...TBS'

pre-emption of WCW on 02-08 sure hurts the momentum that the show has gained over the past two months. I realize that the **Hawaiian Open** is a popular tournament but to pre-empt a strong show with improving ratings is a questionable decision. later....

Wrestlers pin smiles on ailing kids' faces

Asked in an informal poll to pick between President **George Bush** or a pro wrestler as a bedside visitor, patients at **Egleston Hospital** were in complete agreement. They preferred **Johnny B. Badd** and his boa over the leader of the free world.

You can imagine the ruckus last week when **World Championship Wrestling** stars **Badd, Van Hammer** and **Marcus Alexander Bagwell** visited a place where hospital greens are considered outlandish.

Consider that Badd in makeup gives you a decent idea of what **Little Richard** would look like on steroids.

"Some of the patients' mothers were swooning over them," hospital spokeswoman **Lucy Sparkman** said.

They visited on a day when cystic fibrosis outpatient **Matthew Bowles**, a huge WCW fan, was not at the hospital. Hearing that, the wrestlers called Bowles at his home in Brunswick.

"The kids light up pretty good," Hammer said. "But what surprises us most is how some of the adults react."

THE LAST WORD...

- The rumored death of **Mad Dog Buzz Sawyer**,
- **Hulk Hogan** rumored to be looking at a full-time Japan deal,
- The return of **Gordy, Williams, Junkyard Dog, & Nikita** to WCW,
- The house show title change of the WWF tag straps.

IT'S MY 2-CENTS

by Mike Terry

The Fabulous Freebirds will live in infamy as the Milli Vanilli of pro wrestling. I honestly felt sorry for them as their grand entrance got botched up at the last Clash. I feel sorrier for all of us because we're the ones who must now endure yet another lousy Freebird song. With all the people on the TBS payroll, don't they have someone who can write a hook? Actually the people who mixed the song did us a favor and buried Michael Hayes' vocals. Garvin's voice isn't really that bad. And which one's Ginger?

Members of the Eddie Gilbert Fan Club--take cover. Many times over the years we've witnessed bookers who have pushed themselves over other capable performers. Sometimes it may be justified due to lack of economic resources in the promotion, lack of talent depth, or the fact that the booker is legitimately talented. Other times the only apparent justification is the booker's ego. Which of these is Eddie Gilbert's excuse? Probably a combination of the above. Maybe he'd prefer to be behind-the-scenes calling the shots, allowing others to carry out the plotlines he devises. But my 2-cents says--NO--he's exactly where he wants to be and he wouldn't be happy if he weren't the focus of the promotion. Personally, I've had enough of this guy shoving himself down our throats in the GWF. Eddie's not without talent, so there's probably some justification, but is it really necessary for him to open and close the shows? What about doing commentary on several matches during each show which bears an unfortunate resemblance to amateur night at your local comedy club? What about all those shows which "feature" more than one of his matches? Then there's his brother Doug, a man who is unconvincing both in the ring and on the mike, yet still gets a sizeable push. Take it easy, Ed. You're following in the footsteps of some wrestler/bookers who have destroyed not only their territories, but also their reputations.

Those great summer-fall ESPN ratings have to be heading south. No way all those repeats will maintain the audience. Can you imagine what would happen if ESPN would spend half the money on the GWF that Turner spends on WCW?

Turning Abdullah the Butcher baby-face? Did it really have to happen so soon? Those Abby-Cactus tag matches are some of my favorite moments over the past several months.

Watched the first episode of "Tequila & Bonetti" and once is enough. One reviewer wrote: "I've probably seen worse shows, but I can't remember when." Yeah---I'd agree. In one hour we had fart jokes, sh** jokes, piss jokes, and jokes about screwing. (Did Vince McMahon get a writer's credit?). Then there was the lousy acting and an unbelievable plot. And Terry Funk gave up the Double Cross Ranch for this?

Spare change: Whatever happened to Paul Roma?.....I think the slimmer trimmer Tom Zenk looks great!.....Ron Simmons certainly has developed well, hasn't he? What a solid pro.....here's hoping the WCW masterminds keep Rick Rude and Ricky Steamboat happy.....Does Madusa really prefer her role as sometime manager to being an active participant in the ring?.....James E. Cornette, please come home.....So WCW hosted a press conference for some newsletter writers, did they? My invitation must have been lost in the mail.....Nickname of the month: Bobby Heenan on Davey Boy Smith: "The British Bullfrog.".....Separated at Birth: Howard Finkel and Radar O'Reilly.....would someone please explain to me who Gene Okerlund yelled "Put out that cigarette!" to after the Royal Rumble?.....so many of us are condemning Hogan for implying that a great body comes from saying your prayers, taking your vitamins, etc., well what about those Milk commercials? Drink your moo, develop a terrific body, and get the gorgeous ladies besides. Milk developed the great bodies on those actors, right? Who the hell needs steroids?

And who needs more of my 2-cents?

Hey, gang. Have a whole lot on my mind this issue, and here's a "piece of it..."

Had some real mixed emotions about Flair getting the gold. Obviously, I was happy to see him get his due amidst the "mainstream wrestling public," and happy that it was booked in such a way as to afford him the most credibility a battle royale type situation possibly could. On the other hand, I simply don't think he's enough to save the WWF. As long as you have to sit through Bushwackers, Hacksaws, and other buffoons and steroid freaks too numerous to mention, no 8-15 minute main-event is going to salvage the card. And as long as you throw down \$19 bucks ringside to support their product, that's exactly what you are going to get. I hope Flair holds the gold for years to come, but you need look no further than this issue of AR you hold in your hands for ratings of recent WWF matches. Count how many 3* plus matches that are listed, and then count how many worthless "contests" there are. Point proven.

The death of Goodhart's Tri-State is another blow to us hardcores. The fact that he couldn't draw 2,000 people with loaded quarterly cards and radio exposure is a sign that wrestling has in fact deteriorated into a kiddie show and the majority of old-time fans have left in disgust. Not a good sign, people...

Speaking of entertainment for kids, just what's the fuss about the Undertaker? Anybody can play Superman, and not sell. It doesn't make for good WRESTLING. Ditto the raves about Jake The Snake who's great on selling angles, but get him in the ring at a house show and he's as washed up as can be. If you can't have a good match with Randy Savage, hang it up, pal...

Sometimes I feel like the Grinch Who Stole Christmas with all the negativism, but hey, I'd rather go to good theatre, or hear good live music than throw some promoter money just because it says wrestling on the marquee...

Evan the Booker Part 1: Some WWF matches I would actually like to see: Flair-Hennig/Flair-Brett Hart/Flair-Savage/Jennety-Michaels/Flair-Owen Hart/Flair-Piper(but long enough to enjoy it)/Owen Hart-Brett Hart/Flair-Dibiase/Hawk vs. Animal. Just make sure there's at least one or two other watchable matches on the show so I'm not so numb that I couldn't enjoy one of these. Some WCW matches I'd enjoy: Rick vs. Scott Steiner (Funks did it in Japan- why not?), Cactus vs. Abdullah, Liger vs. Scott Steiner, Luger does nothing for me. Ditto Rick Steiner in most singles matches (lazy!).

If you want to read something that'll blow you away, check out the interview with Dutch Mantell in Wrestling- Then & Now's 1992 annaul. He was there when Brody was murdered and some never before released info will be shared. It's WT&N's HISTORY OF THE TERRITORIES- 50 pgs/\$7 at PO Box 471 Oakland Gdns. Station, Flushing, NY 11364. Cks payable to yours truly. Countless clippings and regional profiles...

If you see only one wrestling match the rest of your life, let it be the Jushin Liger vs. Naoki Sano 1/31/90 5* match of the year. Awesome. I showed this to non-wrestling fans who could never understand what I love about wrestling, and they literally gasped at some of the moves!

Anyway, I've done enough bitching, moaning, and griping for this month. I hope McMahon proves me wrong and Flair has a long, glorious reign...

Catch you next month!

NAME: GEORGE MARANVILLE

OCCUPATION: Television Producer

BORN: 1/21/63 Lexington, KY

WHAT 3 WORDS DESCRIBE YOU BEST: slightly belligerent,..sorta

DREAM VACATION: London, England

THINGS YOU CAN DO WITHOUT: sequels (to anything)

WHOM IN THE WORLD WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO HAVE DINNER WITH: George Jetson...I

keep trying to make a person to person call but no luck.

MOVIE YOU COULD SEE ANYTIME: Take The Money & Run (Woody Allen)

3 THINGS THAT CAN ALWAYS BE FOUND IN YOUR REFRIGERATOR: jalepenos, salsa, and Bud

WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A MOVIE: Ernest Borgnine

WHAT TV SHOW DO YOU NEVER MISS: "Get A Life" 1st show to shove TV's self-importance down its throat.

FAVORITE WRESTLING MOMENT: The Jerry Lawler/Ric Flair match held at Lexington's Rupp Arena in '84 or '85 that nobody believes took place.

 CORRESPONDENT'S CORNER

Odenton Fire Hall (MEWF)

Odenton, MD

January 18, 1992

Correspondent: Bruce Ginevan

1) Ramblin Rich pinned Mark Aries. Dud 2) Nick Tarentino over Crybaby Donnie. Dud 3) Morgus the Maniac caught Adrian Hall from the top rope and slammed him for the win. C 4) Kerry Davis beat Bob Wiseman. D 5) Hollywood Bob Star over Lucifer Knight of the Road when Lucifer was caught with a chair.F 6) Axl Rotten rolled up Johnny Lawler. C+ 7) Ricky Blues won the Maryland title in a two out of three bout against Agent Orange. B 8) Cream Team and Billion Dollar Babies went to a double DQ. C 9) Nick Tarentino won an 18 man bunkhouse battle royal. ATT: 180

Rosemont Horizon (WWF)

Rosemont, IL

January 25, 1992

Correspondent: Steve Sims

1) Chris Walker pinned Hercules in 6:57 with the high cross body block. Some heat but real slow paced. * 2) Greg Valentine small packaged Skinner in 11:50. -** 3) Tito Santana and Ted DiBiase went to a twenty minute draw at 18:06. ** 4) Sid Justice over Undertaker in 7:22 when Callous used the urn. -*** 5) Roddy Piper beat Ric Flair via DQ in a title vs. title bout when Undertaker came in to break up Roddy's sleeper hold on Flair. ** 6) British Bulldog schoolboyed Berzerker in 4:01. -** 7) Repo Man pinned Virgil with a right cross and using the tights in 7:01. -* 8) New Foundation beat Beverly Brothers in 12:56 when Anvil pinned Beau by reversing a powerslam to a body press. *3/4 ATT: 7,500 Think Steve gave our typewriters a workout on that negative

McAllister Fieldhouse (WCW)

Charleston, SC

January 25, 1992

Correspondent: Danny Parris

1) Big Josh beat Tracy Smothers in 11:16. * 2) Richard Morton reversed a cradle to pin Johnny B. Badd in 13:14. * 3) Ron Simmons disposed of Diamond Dallas Page in 7:12. 1/2* 4) Marcus Alexander Bagwell over Lee Scott in 3:54. Dud 5) El Gigante pinned Cactus Jack in 7:14. * 6) Barry Windham & Dustin Rhodes downed Abdullah the Butcher & Bobby Eaton in 16:57. Cactus then got involved and he and Abby brawled to the back. *** 7) Sting lost to Rick Rude via DQ in 14:03. Same finish as I've been writing for the past two issues with the false finish title change. ** ATT: 5,000 Tons of no-shows.

Mid-Hudson Civic Center (WWF)

Poughkeepsie, NY

January 29, 1992

Correspondent: Andy King

1) Shaun Michaels pinned Jim Powers in 16:40 after Powers missed a charge in the corner. 2) Rick Martel pinned Jimmy Snuka in 15:43 using the trunks for leverage. 3) Bret Hart made The Mountie submit to the sharpshooter in 8:17. 4) Chris Walker pinned Bob Bradley with a flying bodypress in 14:55. 5) Repo Man pinned Virgil with feet on the ropes. 6) Randy Savage pinned Jake Roberts in 7:38. Jake goes for the DDT, Savage grabs the ropes to escape, and lays on the fallen snake for the pin.

Providence Civic Center (WWF)

Providence, RI

January 30, 1992

Correspondent: Louie Fortuna

1) Chris Walker beat Kato with a flying press at 7:49. 2) Shaun Michaels reversed a roll up to pin Jimmy Snuka at 14:03. 3) Bret Hart made the Mountie submit again. You think the guy would have come up with a defense for the sharpshooter by now. 4) Rick Martel used the ropes to pin Virgil at 12:08. 5) Undertaker over Sid Justice via DQ in 6:51 when ref caught Sid with the urn. 6) Warlord beat Hercules with a simple bodyslam in 7:46. Must have been one powerful bodyslam. 7) Repo Man rolled up Kerry Von Erich in 9:03. 8) Sgt. Slaughter & Hacksaw Duggan over Nasty Boys via count out in 14:00 when Nasty simply walked back to the locker room. 9) Randy Savage pinned Jake Roberts with the same finish as above in 7:30. ATT: 6,000

Madison Square Garden (WWF)

New York, NY

January 31, 1992

Correspondent: Elyse Zois

1) Rick Martel pinned Kerry Von Erich. 2) Shawn Michaels pinned Jimmy Snuka. 3) Sid Justice beat the Mountie. Fans cheering Sid. 4) Warlord beat Hercules. Elyse says the crowd booed both then went to sleep. 5) Slaughter & Duggan over Nasty. Same result as Providence. 6) Chris Walker downed Kato. 7) Repo Man reped Virgil. 8) Randy Savage connected with the elbow from the top rope to beat Jake Roberts.

LETTERS TO "AR"

WWF

Some think that Vince is rethinking Wrestlemania because of the steroid controversy, but it's just his way of expediting a dilemma cleanly. Hogan taking his summer break? Don't give him the belt. Sid a problem? Don't give him the belt. Savage hot but needs a good opponent? Put him in the main event but don't give him the belt.

The average heel WWF world champion has a title reign of less than two months. Vince may be hedging his bets by keeping the belt on Ric while waiting for Luger. Flair can be kept hot by pitting him against Savage, Bret Hart, Davey Boy Smith, and Kerry Von Erich. That takes us to Wrestlemania '93- and Luger finally beating Flair for a world title, to spite WCW.

Meanwhile, Vince expedites his steroid problem by making the I-C belt the musclehead title. I see some stiff like the Bulldog, Von Erich, or Sid holding it before Summer Slam. Vince gets to push a world champion at 240 lbs. while still selling tons of beef. When Lex enters, status quo returns.

Jeff Cohen
Great Neck, NY

RL- Jeff publishes Fanatsy Federation in which Jeff plays booker for some very intriguing match ups. If you mention "AR", Jeff will give you 4 issues for \$3.00 instead of the normal 3. Write him at 50 Shelley Lane, Great Neck, NY 11023.

Undertaker

K.C. O'Connor's column on the Undertaker was interesting, but I also think he takes the character too seriously. I also thought it was a great gimmick when I first saw it, but then, as has often happened with new gimmicks Vince has introduced in recent years, they went overboard with it. Remember how reserved Pringle was originally in the character of Paul Bearer? I thought the whole thing worked beautifully. Then they added make up, Percy's contortionist facial expressions, Calaway's eye rolling and shunning of the cross, etc to the point where I, for one, can't take it as anything other than a re-make of Dracula, and that, too, has been overdone. Give me Jake Roberts anyway over the Undertaker.

Robert Garrison
Raytown, MO

Boy, that K.C. O'Connor really irked me with his negative comments about my hero and role model-the Undertaker. If anybody is doing a disservice to the little brats who love the WWF, it's that phony-the immoral Huckster. I'm surprised McMahon hasn't already renamed Hogan after that rock group-Jesus Jone (and I'm not talking about Luche Libre here, either!) Hell, I would much rather see all the midget Puke-A-Maniacs chugging formaldehyde than popping steroids any day. After all, formaldehyde acts as a preservative but steroids kill! How come O'Connor never griped about the Juicer, who was nothing more than a decaying corpse? Every time he whipped off his bandana, that cloud of dust represented the mold on a rotting cadaver. Kids LOVED The Juicer! They didn't care if he was dead or not.

Kids love to scare other kids and they love to be scared themselves. They love Halloween. They love monsters. They beg their parents to let them stay up late to watch horror movies, knowing they'll end up having nightmares. It's all part of a healthy growing process. I grew up with Frankenstein, the Wolfman, Vampira, Dr. Cadaverino, and Svengoolie. I loved being terrified to the point of being paralyzed with fear, and look at me today! I've got a very healthy attitude about life.

Much has been said about the Undertaker, and how his chronic non-selling of holds and moves, especially for Chump Hogan, makes wrestling seem unrealistic. But think about it this way: What exactly IS a believable reaction to a kick, punch or clothesline which barely grazes the opponent, if touching him at all? In what legitimate sport does an athlete sell for the opposition (other than boxing)? In my opinion, the Undertaker represents the closest thing to pro wrestling as a real sport in existence. He is the most realistic pro wrestler working today. In fact, if all wrestlers fail to respond to fake punches, loud dropkicks, and flaccid clotheslines, wouldn't this make the sport completely legitimate? Think about that!

Butch Bigelow
Dead Dog, KY

RL- Dan Shocket Lives!!!

Royal Rumble

I was quite impressed with the Rumble. Vince should get a major blasting for forcing Owen Hart to team with that abomination of a wrestler but that was a good match as long as the "panvil" stayed outside. I didn't think anything from the Whiff could get a pop out of me but I popped big time when Piper won the title and then I thought about how happy Teresa must be and that made

it much better. Even the match with the Natural Fat Slobs and the Roided Up Lazy Bums was worth watching.

Rumble itself was pretty good, I thought. Liked the booking, except for the "please God Hogan at all costs" finish. Ric Flair not only surprised me, he impressed me. I didn't think he could still go like that. The guy never quit, plus, he took practically everyone's finisher and kept going. Heenan was hilarious the first two thirds of the match and pathetic after that, because he wore it to death. I think Flair is deserving of the title, even though it was a strange way to get it. It is only too bad that they could not do it clean -- after building his creditableness so high throughout the Rumble, why make him finish with an assist from Hogan and then scamper from the ring in fear of the immortal asshole? Well, we all know why.

Rodney Leighton
Pugwash, Nova Scotia

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news items on the radio: "Despite steroids and false advertising, the House panel defeated Legislation for a bill that would have regulated pro wrestling." With that I breathed a sigh of relief. Those two aspects the radio mentioned do have to be dealt with but the commission was going to make the promotions pay for their own testing as well as institute a 5% tax on all gates. That would have wiped out all the independants in Florida (which has the most active independant federations) and WWF and WCW had already planned on pulling out of the state if the bill had passed. The bill was defeated by an 8-1 margin..... Word has it that Jesse Ventura will be signing for big bucks which would mean WCW would probably let some people go. Gordon Solie and Eric Bischoff are most likely high on that list....Van Hammer is starting to get that Kerry Von Erich look in his eyes. Spaced out big time....If you haven't seen the FMW card that aired from Kawasaki Baseball Stadium on 10/26, do yourself a favor. The steel cage match between Onita and Goto had explosives attached to the cage. Each time someone hit the cage, a bomb would go off and knock the wrestler senseless. Call me sick but I was laughing like I was watching slapstick comedy....Paul Spiegel has 2nd row tickets to the UWF show in Miami on 3/20. The top two bouts are Fujiwara vs. Bart Vail and Wayne Shamrock vs. Funaki. Call him at (813)876-3371....IWF tapings on 2/1 saw the Long Riders beat the Heartbreakers for the tag belts but after, they left the Riders laying. Good *** $\frac{1}{2}$ bout but I didn't like the demolishing at the end. Should have let Riders celebrate. Blackjack Mulligan juiced big time when he was attacked at ringside by Mondo Kleen. Randy Rhodes of the Dynamite Express did an amazing front somersault from the ring apron onto one of the Bad Boys..The taping was marred by too many run-ins with lots of non finishes. Tony Mella who wrestles as Lebanese Assassin as well as other pseudonyms suffered a severely bruised sternum when Thunder & Lightning were a bit too stiff. (As seems to be always the case.) It was first thught Mella suffered a heart attack....Mulligan will be moving to Alabama next month where he'll be working for car dealership....I mentioned Pro Wrestling Torch earlier. Wade Keller has recently expanded the Torch to 12 pages chock full of news, results, interviews, and excellant columnists. If you haven't seen a copy of Torch yet, give this newsletter a try. One of the best in the biz. Costs are \$5.00 for four issues. Send to Wade at P.O. Box 201844, Minneapolis, MN 55420.....Howard Brody presenting three big shows of Wild Women of Wrestling on 2/28 (Immokalee, FL), 3/1 (Port St. Lucie High School), and 3/2 War Memorial in Ft. Lauderdale) with Bambi, Pink Cadillac, Wendy Richter, Penelope Paradise, Luna Vachon, Malia Hosaka, Candi Devine, Glamour Girls, Peggy Lee Leather, Allison Royale, A.J. Watson, and Rockin Robin. Virtually a who's who in women wrestling....Guest time keeper at that Lauderdale show will be Kathy Willets with her husband taping. Heh, heh....Jeff Mullins of P.O. Box 36189, San Jose, CA 95158 has published an 18 page double-issue of his controversial monthly humor sheet Pro Wrestling Sushi and is selling it for the single price of \$1.50. New and former subscribers of Sushi who send Jeff \$6.00 for four issues will receive the double issue free. It's a howl. Check it out. Highest recommendation....UIW taped at the Parkville Armory in Maryland on 1/25 with Bam Bam Bigelow, Scotty the Body, Axl Rotten, Rasta the Voodoo Mon' in front of 310....C.R.O.W. of P.O. Box 1712, Henderson, KY 42420 has put together a tape called Memphis '91 for 16.00. It runs three and a half hours long with all the best from the USWA. He also is selling Memphis programs in lots of 10 for \$10.00 that date back to the mid seventies. Also Jushin Liger custom tape for \$16.00 (15 matches with and without mask) and a Lightning Kid tape for \$15.00....Before closing, if anyone interviews Billy Graham, please ask him some different questions. Thank you....I should have said, "If anyone else interviews him....Next issue will feature a live report on the WWF taping: which take place 2/17 in Tampa as well as a WWF house show in Orlando on 2/15.Being a huge hoops fan, it was a great weekend to live in Orlando. Thanks a bunch Magic. If it weren't for you and Larry Bird, the NBA wouldn't be the hottest sport in the country. God Bless you big guy!!!

See ya,

Ron